

BULLETIN
of the
MARITIME LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

VOL. XIII, No. I

FALL, 1948

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Charlottetown, P. E. I.

CANADIAN BOOK EXCHANGE CENTRE

The Canadian Library Association and the Canadian Council for Reconstruction through UNESCO are undertaking to collect from across Canada books and journals in the fields of science, technology, education and culture to help re-stock libraries in Europe devastated by war.

The Canadian Book Exchange Centre has been set up in Halifax, close to rail and port facilities, to receive, screen and ship the donations overseas. Mrs. M. N. Reynolds is the Director of the Book Centre and Mr. Donald A. Redmond is the Librarian. The Book Centre is ready to receive shipments and has already received 10,000 items from libraries, professional organizations and individuals.

This is an opportunity for librarians to work actively in the field of reconstruction and they are asked to help expedite this programme in every possible way. Donations should be prepaid and addressed to:

Canadian Book Centre,
Terminal Road,
Halifax, N. S.

UNESCO LIBRARY SCHOOL

Miss Mary E. Donaldson, assistant librarian of the Saskatoon Public Library, recently returned to Canada after attending the UNESCO Library School held in Manchester and London. There she served as convener to a group of librarians from Canada.

This UNESCO Library School is the first international library school ever held. To it came 46 librarians from 18 countries to discuss general library problems of common interest. The public library as the instrument of democracy received special attention. The Director of the School was Dr. Arne Kildal of Norway and the staff included outstanding leaders from Great Britain, the United States, India, Belgium and France.

Canadians attending were Miss Mary E. Donaldson, Assistant Librarian, Saskatoon Public Library and a past member of the Council of the Canadian Library Association; Mlle Juliette Chabot, Associate Librarian of the Montreal Civic Library; Miss Margaret Hughes, Assistant to the Director of Public Library Service of the Province of Ontario; Mrs. Elizabeth Musto, Assistant to the Chief of Circulation, Vancouver, Public Library, and Miss Ruth Jacobs, formerly associated with the Aeronautical Library, National Research Council, Ottawa.

THE CENTRAL LIBRARY - WHAT IS IT? by Mrs. Myra Vernon, Librarian

The Central Library, as it is commonly called, is properly The Teachers' Central Library and is part of the Department of Education of the province of Nova Scotia. In its inception, I have been told, it was a few books on a shelf, in which might be found the answers to questions from teachers. Since that three foot beginning, the Library has grown to a collection of about 13,000 books, the greater part making up the main Central Library, housed in the Provincial building - cramped quarters be it said - and the remaining 3000 odd volumes on the shelves of the Adult Education branch.

Primarily, this library is just what its name implies, a library for teachers, and as such, contains a good collection of material on methods, history and philosophy of education. There is also much material relating to the various subjects on the curriculum of elementary and high schools, supplementary reading for the use of teachers and pupils as well. There are teaching aids for all grades

from Kindergarten up to Grade XII, and going further, there is available much information for graduate students and research workers. A rather good section on art provides material for instruction, history and picture appreciation, and the collection of handcraft is possibly the best in the province. With the music section, there is a good collection of choral and other songs which are available in quantity to borrowers, and many records to be used in music appreciation classes. One of the sections which is most useful, is the juvenile and teen-age supplementary reading from which teachers may borrow to stimulate outside reading. This particular service has been in existence only a little over two years, and has proved a real aid in the improvement of reading habits. It may seem strange to the average librarian, but to a vast majority of Nova Scotia children, Heidi and Hans Brinker and Mrs. Poppins were total strangers.

One of the privileges of the librarian is the opportunity of visiting - accompanied by huge cartons of books - Teachers' Institutes and Home and School Association meetings. The delight and appreciation shown at the chance to see what can be obtained for children's libraries is truly gratifying; seldom do our people see the lovely books that can do so much to stimulate reading interest in children. In this connection, one of the duties of the librarian is to provide book lists to anyone asking for them.

In connection with the Dramatics section of the Adult Education Branch, we have built up a unique library of plays and material on play production. Plays are sent to any group wishing to make a selection, tho' of course, actual purchase of copies must be made from the publisher.

Through the Central Library, there is available to responsible borrowers, valuable Nova Scotiana which has been collected through a period of years by Dr. Henry Munro. This collection is a part of the Central Library, but of necessity its use must be restricted.

It is a far cry from the 3-foot shelf and no librarian, to 13000 volumes and a full-time librarian and an assistant, but we still feel that we are only in the beginning process.

NEW BRUNSWICK'S DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LIBRARY
by Miss Alice E. Oulton, Librarian

The Department of Education Library for New Brunswick, providing a special library service to the schools of the province, wears still its "shining morning face,"

for it is yet to celebrate its seventh birthday. It is situated at Teachers' College, Fredericton. Back in the summer of 1941 a collection of 2000 well chosen books, gathered together by devious means, was already forming a nucleus of a teacher's lending library. Like Topsy, it had "jes growed". In the fall of that year, the collection which had by now become unwieldy, was classified, catalogued and placed under the administration of a trained librarian. By Christmas there were 2,500 books; today, there are 9,600. The highest monthly circulation in the first days was 392; the highest monthly circulation last year was 1970.

Total circulation from Nov. 1947 - Nov. 1948:

Books	18,677
Pamphlets	30,055
Number of active borrowers	2,300

Who may borrow from the library and how does it function? Every teacher in New Brunswick has the privilege of borrowing from the Department of Education Library, free of charge, from 1-3 books at a time for periods of two weeks throughout the calendar year. A return label and two "call slips" are enclosed in each parcel of books sent out. The label is pasted on the outside of returning parcel thus ensuring free transportation. Books are sent to teachers only, though the books may be for the use of teacher or pupil. Book lists are published regularly in the "Forum", the teachers' monthly magazine. The green light has now been given for a printed catalogue of the library holdings, so that each school may have a complete list.

Types of books. The Library, now containing over 9,600 carefully selected books, covers a wide range of subjects, and is chosen to meet the needs of both teachers and pupils. There are books on Health, Language, Science, Social Studies, Mathematics, Art, Music, Literature, Plays and Play Production, Audio-Visual Aids, Biography, Psychology, Physical Education, Home Economics, Supplementary Readers, Children's Literature and a sizeable library of Professional books. All titles suggested for reference reading in the regular school curriculum, grades 1-11, are here, and hundreds upon hundreds of others, while reference reading material for adults covers an ever widening range of interests. The sections in Home Economics, Science and Physical Education have been notably strengthened this year, and every effort is made to keep the total collection a balanced one. A growing collection of the best books in children's recreation reading is a cause for joy and there is a marked impetus in the circulation of professional books.

Pamphlets. In each parcel of books sent out there are included two or three free pamphlets on current topics, and

in addition, the Library has been sending out on alternate months, sets of excellent posters and photographic pictures received for distribution from the United Kingdom Information Office in Ottawa. This year the Library will be the established provincial centre for the distribution of United Nations material under UNESCO.

Book displays. The Library prepares a book display each year for the Easter convention of the New Brunswick Teachers Association, and the display occupies an entire classroom. As many as three hundred requests for books have been received during such a conference. Book displays are also sent to various regional conferences during the last week of August. A collection of about 800 books from the Department Library goes each year to the New Brunswick Teachers' College Summer School, and is there administered as the Summer School Library for the session.

Summer School Library course. A course in Children's Literature and Library Science has been given for the past two years at the Summer School by the Departmental Librarian.

Book talks, Book lists, Book reviews. Book talks are given before local teachers' associations, Women's Institutes and Parent Teachers Associations and for the latter a special book shelf is set aside at the Library. Book lists and book reviews are prepared regularly for the "Forum," the teachers monthly magazine. Thus the library service for teachers and schools continues to grow apace. The work is tremendously interesting, and it would be difficult to find finer library patrons than the teachers of New Brunswick.

NOTES AND GLEANINGS

HALIFAX LIBRARY CLUB

New officers of the Halifax Library Club are:

President: Miss Eileen Burns, Librarian, St. Patrick's Boys High School

Vice-President: Mrs. Burns Adams

Secretary: Miss Dorothy McKay

Program Committee: Miss Charlotte Allan, Miss Evelyn Campbell, Miss Barbara Murray.

At the October meeting the members welcomed Mr. Donald Redmond, Librarian of the Canadian Book Centre, and Mrs. Redmond.

NOVA SCOTIA REGIONAL LIBRARIES COMMISSION

Mr. Peter Grossman, recently appointed Director of regional libraries for Nova Scotia, has arrived in Halifax to take up his work. Mr. Grossman has specialized in the operation of regional libraries since 1930 except for the

war years when he served overseas with the Canadian Army. He was first connected with the Carnegie Corporation library demonstration in the Fraser Valley and then spent three years with the Fraser Valley Union Library. In 1937 he went to the University of California on a fellowship from the American Library Association to make a study of county libraries. In 1938 he became librarian of the Vancouver Island Union Library. Following his war service, Mr. Grossman was appointed Librarian of the Fraser Valley Union Library which he directed until his appointment to his new post in Halifax. (Halifax Chronicle Sept. 2)

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND LIBRARIES

Mr. H. B. Chandler, the Librarian, as Director of Visual Education for the province, joined the Directors of visual education from the other provinces in a visit to England, at the invitation of the J. Arthur Rank 16mm. Ltd. to discuss the production of 16 mm. films. The party left by air from Montreal on Nov. 3 and expect to be away about two weeks.

The Murray River branch, closed in 1944 because of the housing shortage, is being reopened.

A meeting of all branch librarians is to be held at library Headquarters on Nov. 17 and 18 to discuss ways of improving the service given to the reading public.

CANADIAN LITERATURE

"Canada rose to new prominence during the Second World War, and Canadians gained confidence in themselves in all fields, including that of literature. Canada is now producing 100 works of general literature annually, including some of international importance. Canadian literature, says William Arthur Deacon, past president of the Canadian Authors Association, "has commenced to express the soul of a people just awakening to the fact that it has a soul to express - a distinct and unique soul - and that it must solve its own problems on its own terms".

Though Canadian literature is in its infancy, the child is a healthy one and shows great promise. It does not challenge the much older literature of Europe, but for a country of Canada's population the advance is outstanding.

For many years Canadian writers have been climbing a long uphill path to recognition, and in some cases to fame. In 1927 when Mazo De La Roche won the Atlantic Monthly Prize with her novel Jalna, it was a sensational achievement for a Canadian writer. In later years honours have become more usual. Gwethalyn Graham's

Earth and High Heaven is circulating in 10 languages other than English. Gabrielle Roy, a native of St. Boniface, Manitoba won the Prix Femina Vie Heureuse (Paris) for the year's most distinguished novel by a woman with her novel The Tin Flute. Bruce Hutchison's The Unknown Country and Hugh McLennan's Two solitudes entered best sellerdom at home and received acclaim abroad. Roger Lemelin's The Town Below, a satire of city life and industrial workers, won for the young author the French Academy's French language prize, and a Guggenheim Fellowship." (Royal Bank of Canada Monthly Letter, October, 1948)

A list of 100 Canadian classics was selected for UNESCO by eight Canadian men of letters (including two librarians). The list is printed in the September number of the C.L.A. Bulletin; in it we notice the following works by Maritimers:

Bird, Will R.	Sunrise for Peter
Carman, Bliss	Bliss Carman's poems
Haliburton, Thomas	Chandler Sam Slick
Hughes, Katherine	Father Lacombe
MacLennan, Hugh	Barometer rising
MacMechan, Archibald	Tales of the sea
MacPhail, Andrew	The master's wife
McInnis, Edgar	The unguarded frontier
Raddall, Thomas	His Majesty's Yankees
Roberts, Sir Charles G.D.	Selected poems
Roberts, Theodore, G.	The leather bottle

HELP! NEWS AND SUGGESTIONS WANTED

It has been suggested that the Bulletin include more information on everyday problems of library work. Readers are asked to let the Editor know the topics they would like to have discussed, so that material can be gathered from other librarians.

If you have any reference questions unanswered, perhaps a note in the Bulletin would bring the information required.

News items about libraries and librarians in the Maritimes will be welcomed by the Editor.

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